

Minutes - May Monthly Meeting

Palouse Region Chapter, Citizen's Climate Lobby

Time: Wednesday, May 7, 2014 at 5:30 pm

Place: Unitarian Universalist Church of the Palouse (downstairs), 420 E 2nd St, Moscow, ID

In attendance: Rob Briggs, Pat Fuerst, Rachael Clark, Deb Olson, Pat Friel, Mary Dupree, Bob Johnson, Cary Lindsey, Steve Flint, Judy Meuth, and Jeff Ramsey.

Thanks to note taker Judy Meuth. These minutes were prepared by Rob Briggs.

Local Chapter Logistics

Regular Meeting Times - Based on the results a Doodle Poll conducted by Bertie Weddell, we have settled on 5:30 pm on the first Wednesday following the first Saturday of each month, except one week later when the first Saturday is a national holiday weekend, as occurs this July. **Next chapter meeting will be at 5:30 pm Wednesday, June 11.**

Regular Meeting Place - We had several new suggestions for places we might hold chapter meetings. In addition, there was general agreement that rotating the venue might help us to engage additional citizens and it would be a good idea to try.

Suggested venues in Moscow were Café Artista (218 S. Main St.), One World Café (533 S. Main St.), and Bucer's Coffee House & Pub (201 S Main St.) and in Pullman The Daily Grind Coffeehouse (230 E Main St.) and Neill Public Library (210 N. Grand Ave.). Moscovites expressed interest in car pooling when meetings are held in Pullman with the parking lot in front of Office Depot the suggested gathering place.

ACTION ITEM: Rob to track down venue for Wednesday, June 11 meeting.

Finances - Pat Rathmann is in the process of setting up a checking account for the chapter, most likely with Sterling Savings Bank in Moscow. Mary Dupree volunteered to serve as treasurer. We expect to receive a significant donation from the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Palouse by virtue of our selection this year as one of their designated organizations to receive proceeds from their Ren Fair food booth. We plan to pay for pizza at monthly meetings out of chapter funds and expect at some later date to ask members for donations.

Banner - We have decided to purchase a vertically-oriented banner (e.g., 6 ft. high, 2 ft. wide) and banner stand for use in tabling and other events.

ACTION ITEM: Rob to inquire with CCL National whether there is suitable artwork or capabilities to create such artwork at the national level.

UPDATE: CCL did not have suitable vertically-oriented artwork, but they created a design included in the cover email in response to the inquiry. Please send any comments or suggested modifications for the artwork to Rob.

Announcements

Years of Living Dangerously - Rachael described plans for free showings of the ShowTime series at the Kenworthy at 7 pm on the following dates:

- Monday 5/12 Episode 4
- Monday 5/19 Episode 5
- Monday 5/27 Episode 6
- Monday 6/2 Episode 7
- Monday 6/9 Episode 8
- Monday 6/16 Episode 9

Planning meetings for community activities to follow each showing are being hosted by Rachel Clark & Michael Jennings. The first of these meetings was held Wednesday May 7 at 7 pm in the Fiske Room of the 1912 Center.

CCL Book Club for May - The featured book for May is *Fevered* by Linda Marsa. The book is about the health and medical implications of climate change. A conference call with the author is scheduled for Sunday, May 25 at 5pm. The book does not appear to be available in local libraries, but there was discussion of requesting that Book People stock it.

May 3 National CCL Call

You can listen to national calls [here](#) at anytime. Only a few attendees had listened to the call before the meeting. Rob suggested that if you can find time to listen to the calls, you'll hear a lot of ideas that can help you become more effective.

There were two actions for chapters that were recommended in this months national call:

- Send letters to members of congress advocating revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend.
- Do research on the impact of climate change on local industries with an eye towards mobilizing them to advocate for effective federal climate policy.

Rob mentioned that there is a current CCL thrust to engage agriculture interests, a national CCL Ag committee that has conference calls once per week, and strong interest in Tri-Cities CCL chapter to begin a conversation with the agriculture industry on revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend. Pat Fuerst and Rachael Clark indicated interest in joining with Rob and CCL Tri-Cities in participating. Anyone else interested in learning more about this activity, please contact Rob.

CCL Resources

Rob described some resource that may be useful to CCL chapter members.

- [CCL Community](http://citizensclimatelobby.org/) - CCL Community is CCL's internal web site for members, while <http://citizensclimatelobby.org/> is CCL's public web site. CCL Community is quite new, and they are in the process of transitioning to having the internal site. Everyone who attended the group-start workshop should have received an email inviting them to join CCL Community. We decided that it would make sense to have the CCL administrator send invitations to everyone currently on our local chapter mailing list. When you receive the invitation, just click on the link in the email and create a username and password.
- [Laser Talks](#) - Laser talks are short articles on various topics related to CCL's mission and legislative agenda. Topics include carbon fee and dividend, the economy, and climate science. They provide a good way to learn about the topics and to become proficient in talking about them. Most laser talks have been created by CCL members, so consider sharing your knowledge in areas not already adequately addressed.
- [Field Reports](#) - CCL tries to keep track of the work of its members, as this information is useful both in lobbying and in fundraising. They track visits with members of congress (MoCs) and their staffs; cards, letters, and phone calls to MoCs; published newspaper op-eds, letters to the editor, editorial board meetings, and articles; and outreach events like presentations, radio and TV appearances, tabling, etc. CCL asks that one person be designated to file these reports for the chapter to avoid duplications and omissions. Currently that person is Rob, but he is looking for someone to take over this task. If you have done something that should trigger a CL field report, please email the information to Rob.

Updates and Successes from Interest Groups

We did a quick review from chapter interest groups.

- **Tabling** (Pat Rathmann, lead) - Pat R. sent out an email to members who have expressed interest in tabling. Opportunities include Moscow Farmers Market, Pullman Farmers Market, Years of Living Dangerously showings, and the Co-Op. There was a suggestion that a printed sign-up sheet at monthly chapter meetings (rather than emails) be used for future sign-ups. We discussed whether to have a table at the Lentil Festival. We liked the idea of getting the exposure, but there is an insurance requirement that would appear to be a major cost impediment unless we can find another group to piggyback on.
- **Newspapers/Media** (Al Poplawsky, lead) - We have had members writing effective responses to climate denier letters in the Lewiston Tribune. Rob related guidance from CCL to always try to include our own positive CCL message about revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend in such letters. Rob reported that he expects to have an op-ed in the Moscow-Pullman Daily News running on Monday, May 12 and that we have an editorial board with the Daily News on Thursday, May 29 to discuss revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend and to deliver to them an embargoed copy of a new REMI study that will be released publicly on Monday, June 2.
- **Presentations** (Pat Friel, lead) - Rob reported that he had received copies of two PowerPoint presentations from CCL. These were created by CCL chapter members and may be adaptable by our members for use in speaking to local groups. Anyone interested in copies of these files, please contact Rob.
During April, Rachael gave a talk to Kenton Bird's class at the U of I. Pat Friel suggested we include a CCL presentation in an upcoming meeting for practice and so that members can get a sense of the available canned presentation materials. Deb Olson mentioned that the Pullman League of Women Voters was always looking for speakers, although the talks

will be on hiatus until fall. Other groups might include Lions, Rotary, WSU and UI groups. It appears that we have speakers that are will be willing to make presentations. If you see presentation opportunities, drop a note to Pat Friel (speakfriely@hotmail.com).

- **Outreach** (Jeff Ramsey, lead) - Rob passed around the CCL "Admit One" cards carrying an invitation to participate in one of the weekly CCL Introductory Conference Calls (each Wednesday at 5 pm Pacific). His request was that each person find someone who might make a good CCL member and invite that person to participate in an introductory call. The person need not be local. Jeff and Rob went on Peace Radio, a bi-weekly program on KRFP to talk about CCL and revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend. There are lots of opportunities to go on KRFP and possibly other radio stations to talk about climate, CCL, and revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend.
- **Lobbying** (Rob Briggs, lead) - The CCL national conference will be held June 22 - 24 in Washington, DC. Currently, Rob appears to be the only person from the chapter going. CCL national asked for the names of Idaho residents that support CCL's mission to grant permission for their names to be used in securing meetings with members of congress representing Idaho. Rob is to forward the names of the Idahoans attending the meeting to CCL national for this purpose. There is a chance CCL may ask for the direct assistance of an Idaho resident in securing these appointments for June 24, as MoCs are far more responsive to request from actual constituents. Mary pointed out that both Republican and Democratic Idaho state political conventions will be held in Moscow in June and wondered if these events might afford opportunities for us to lobby and increase the visibility of our efforts. Rob agreed to put Mary in contact with folks at CCL national who can provide information on how these political convention opportunities had been exploited by CCL in the past.

Letters/Cards to Members of Congress (MoCs)

Blank postcards and letters addressed to Representatives Raul Labrador and Cathy McMorris Rogers were circulated. Rob requested that each person write their congressional representative requesting support for revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend and mail them on Saturday, May 10. Mailing all correspondence on the same day will ensure that they all arrive during the same week, thereby boosting the visibility of our issue. Commitments were made for eleven correspondence with MoCs. For anyone not at the meeting wishing to write, there is a pdf file attached to the cover letter for these minutes containing suggestions for effective letter writing and example letters.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.